

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 /155 W

----- 122556

R 131445Z DEC 73

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2385

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI, AO

SUBJ: SUCCESSFUL MPLA AMBUSH

1. PORTUGUESE ARMY HAS ADMITTED THAT MPLA SUCCEEDED IN PULLING OFF A WELL PLANNED AMBUSH AGAINST SMALL ARMY CONVOY NEAR LUVUEI, ON LUSO-GAGO COUTINHO ROAD. ARMY REPORTS AMBUSH, WHICH OCCURRED DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS NOV 15, RESULTED IN 6 KIA AND 23 WIA. ARMY MAKES NO MENTION MPLA LOSSES, AN UNUSUAL OMISSION, BUT MPLA COMMUNIQUE ADMITS 2 KIA AND 2WIA.

2. ARMY, IN ATTEMPT DOWNPLAY MPLA'S SUCCESS, ASCRIBES 3 OF ITS KILLED AND MANY OF ITS WOUNDED TO A PILE-UP WHICH OCCURRED AFTER LEAD VEHICLE WAS HIT BY A BAZOOKA SHELL AND WAS STOPPED. OTHER VEHICLES IN THE CONVOY WERE REPORTEDLY GOING TOO FAST AND WERE TOO CLOSE TOGETHER, RESULTING IN SOLDIERS BEING HIT BY FOLLOWING VEHICLES WHILE DEPLOYING FROM THEIR OWN TRUCKS.

3. THIS AMBUSH MAY BE ONLY AN ISOLATED INCIDENT OR IT MAY MARK THE BEGINNING OF A REVIVAL OF MPLA'S MILITARY EFFORTS

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IN THE ESAT, DORMANT NOW FOR MANY MONTHS. THE ARMY ADHERES

TO THE FORMER VIEW, FEELING THAT MPLA HAS THE CAPABILITY
TO LAUNCH BORDER CROSSING FORAYS OF THIS TYPE, BUT IS NOT
YET ABLE TO REINSERT ITSELF INTO ITS FORMER AREA OF OPERATION.
PORTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMBAT OPERATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LUANDA00664
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LUANDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731227/aaaaatqi.tel
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
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Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
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To: STATE
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